

Expedited procedure  
Under 37 CFR 1.116

02/03/2009

500.45682X00

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: K. AOTA, et al.  
Serial No.: 10/560,225  
Filed: DECEMBER 12, 2005  
For: FRICTION STIRRING-WELDING METHOD  
Group AU: 1793  
Examiner: Kiley Shawn Stoner  
Confirm. No.: 2697

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION**

**Mail Stop: AF – FEE**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 26, 2009

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 25, 2008, the period for response having been extended for three (3) months by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, please amend the above-identified application as listed in the following, and as set forth on the following pages:

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS; and

REMARKS are included following the amendments.